

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO SERIES

☒ ACTION 10-03
☐ NOTICE

ISSUE DATE: March 1, 2010
DISPOSAL DATE: Until Further Notice

*PROGRAM CATEGORIES:

<input type="checkbox"/> AS	<input type="checkbox"/> FL	<input type="checkbox"/> ML	<input type="checkbox"/> TR
<input type="checkbox"/> CR	<input type="checkbox"/> IT	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WIA
<input type="checkbox"/> FM	<input type="checkbox"/> JC	<input type="checkbox"/> TC	<input type="checkbox"/> YA
	<input type="checkbox"/> LM	<input type="checkbox"/> TA	

To: Workforce Development Board Directors, Opportunity Grant Program Manager, Opportunity Grant Workgroup, Wisconsin Technical College Financial Aid Officers

From: Ron Danowski 
Division Administrator

RE: Governor Doyle Grow Wisconsin Plan – Opportunity Grant Program Revisions/Modifications

PURPOSE: This Addendum provides further detail and clarification on the Opportunity Grant Program revisions, modifications and extension.

REFERENCES:

- Governor Doyle Executive Order # 278
- "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments" which is codified at 29 CFR Part 97.
- "OMB Circular A-110" which is codified at 29 CFR Part 95.
- 2009 WIA Local Plan

BACKGROUND: The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) issued the Opportunity Grant Program on June 24, 2009. Since that issuance, a number of questions have been raised regarding detail requirements. In response to those inquiries, an Opportunity Grant Workgroup was created to consider those requirements. The answers below are a result of that workgroup and are issued as supplements to the original program announcement.

Opportunity Grant revisions and modifications:

1) Must be working or in temporary layoff. Requisite.

Clarification:

-Opportunity Grant (OG) funds are designated to those individuals not eligible for other funding sources such as dislocated workers. Areas are encouraged to perform outreach and market to employers, W2 agencies, and temp agencies, intermediaries and/or staffing services

*PROGRAM CATEGORIES:

AS--Apprenticeship Standards	FM--Financial Management Requirements	LM--Labor Market Information	TR--Transportation
CR--Civil Rights	FL--Foreign Labor Certification	ML--Migrant Labor	WIA--Workforce Investment Act
	IT--IT Systems	RA--Refugee Assistance	YA--Youth Apprenticeship
	JC--Job Center	TC--Tax Credit Programs	
		TA--Trade Assistance	

2) Cannot hold a previous degree. Requisite.

Clarification:

-Degree is an Associate Degree or higher. Certificates or one year diplomas do not count.

Modification:

-If the degree is more than seven years old **and** the individual has never worked professionally in the degree, it does not penalize them for an OG.

3) Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Requisite.

Modifications:

-A technical college approves the equivalency they are eligible.

-OG wrap-around services can pay for GED, HSED type testing if the applicant/recipient is enrolled in OG eligible courses.

4) Training must be at a Wisconsin Technical College. Requisite.

Clarification:

-Areas consider collaboration with tech colleges to develop classroom size training marketed to area employers.

-Tech colleges not having capacity for classroom size training can hire an instructor at a remote or offsite location.

5) Must be enrolled half-time or less with eight (8) credits or less.

Modifications:

-The applicant/recipient may be eligible for a Federal Pell grant but no other state or federal student aid.

-The applicant/recipient that is not financial aid eligible (with the exception of a Federal Pell grant) no longer has a number of credits limit.

Additional Modifications/Clarifications:

-Employment must be documentable. Any wages received are reported wages.

-An individual may receive the \$1,000.00/\$250.00 OG grant per semester for multiple semesters.

-Any costs associated with or listed as required for a course (as listed on the syllabus) may be considered either tuition or wrap-around services so it may be paid from either of those funds.

ACTION SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Implementation of this Addendum is effective immediately.

Those areas that do not wish to partake any further in the OG program must notify DWD Opportunity Grant program manager by no later than March 19, 2010.

All areas choosing to continue participation in the OG program will be granted an extension to December 31, 2010 to utilize these funds.

CONTACT:

For program questions, contact Sharon Berge.